



App. No. 09/812,755
App. dated July 3, 2003
Reply to Office Action of January 15, 2003

RECEIVED
JUL 15 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PATENT

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-30 (Cancelled).

1 ~~31~~ (Currently amended) A method for supplying liquid to an aerosolization
2 device, the method comprising:
3 providing an ampoule comprising an ampoule body having a top end, a bottom end, and a
4 sealed interior containing a liquid, ~~a top tab that is coupled to an air vent disposed near the top~~
5 ~~end, and a bottom tab that is coupled to the bottom end, and a shroud disposed about the top tab;~~
6 ~~moving the shroud away from the tab;~~
7 ~~removing the top tab to create a drain vent;~~
8 removing the bottom tab to create a drain opening;
9 inserting the ampoule into a receiving portion of the aerosolization device;
10 opening the air vent;
11 wherein upon ~~creation~~ opening of the ~~drain~~ air vent and the creation of the drain opening,
12 the liquid in the interior flows out of the drain opening and into the aerosolization device where
13 it is available for aerosolization by an the aerosolization device.

1 ~~2~~ ~~32~~ (Currently amended) A method as in claim ~~31~~, further comprising inserting the
2 ampoule into the aerosolization device after removing the bottom tab and prior to ~~removing the~~
3 ~~top tab~~ opening the drain vent.

1 ~~4~~ ~~33~~ (Currently amended) A method as in claim ~~31~~, wherein the ampoule includes a
2 top tab that is removable to form the air vent and a shroud that is disposed about the top tab, and
3 further comprising bending the shroud to move the shroud away from the top tab.

1 ~~5~~ ~~34~~ (Currently amended) A method as in claim ~~31~~, further comprising twisting the
2 top tab and the bottom tab to remove them from the ampoule body.

1 ~~6~~ ~~35~~ (Original) A method as in claim ~~31~~, wherein the ampoule further includes a pair
2 of longitudinal rails on the ampoule body, and further comprising inserting the ampoule into the

A

3 aerosolization device such that the rails are received into corresponding slots in the

4 aerosolization device.

1 ~~7~~ 36. (Original) A method as in claim ~~35~~³⁶, wherein the rails and the slots have different
2 sizes, and further comprising inserting the ampoule such that the rails are received into the
3 appropriately-sized slots.

1 ~~3~~ 37. (Original) A method as in claim ~~32~~³⁷, wherein the bottom end is tapered, and
2 further comprising providing a seal with the bottom end and the aerosolization device.

1 ~~8~~ 38. (Original) A method as in claim ~~31~~³⁸, wherein the ampoule further includes at least
2 one keying element on the ampoule body, and further comprising inserting the aerosolization
3 device and permitting operation of the aerosolization device only when the keying element is
4 accepted by the aerosolization device.

1 ~~9~~ 39. (Original) A method as in claim ~~38~~³⁹, wherein the keying element comprises a
2 protrusion on the ampoule body, and further comprising inserting the ampoule into the
3 aerosolization device such that the protrusion is received into a keyed slot in the aerosolization
4 device.

1 ~~10~~ 40. (Added) A method as in claim ~~31~~⁴⁰, wherein the liquid comprises a medicament.